stronger than the pro-American bloc. During Khrushchev's day the pro-American bloc was stronger.

Post 11/26/67

NBC Experiment

NBC's GREAT experiment in investigative reporting under Walter Sheridan, erstwhile star of the Justice Department's get-Hoffa squad, has sometimes produced more showmanship than hard news.

Most recently, he led his intrepid NBC cameramen and 20 government agents on a spectacular raid outside Selma, Ala. They descended upon a barn that was supposed to contain a Negro arsenal for inflaming race riots. Unhappily, they found nothing more menacing than a molding pile of compost.

Sheridan had persuaded Treasury men that black militants had disassembled an armored truck in Detroit, smuggled it to Selma, then

discover

ministration's ... bill.

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reassembled it in the barn. Sheridan's informant was a Negro whom he refused to identify but guaranteed was "reliable."

Earlier, Sheridan featured on NBC a black power advocate who graphically described the "conspiracy" behind the Detroit riots and told about the terrible things that were going to happen to the "honkies," as Polish Americans are contemptuously called in black power Detroit circles.

The witness, one James Wiggins, later said he merely gave the responses that had been prepared to questions propounded by NBC. The truth was, he said, that the riots had been spontaneous.

Everybody agreed, however, that the phony interview had made a great show.

Sheridan was a protege of Sen. Robert Kennedy (D-N.Y.), who hired him during their Senate racketbusting days and called him "one of our best and most relentless investigators."

Since going on NBC's payroll, Sheridan has kept in constant hot water. Last summer New Orleans District Attorney Jim Garrison even tried to send him to jail for allegedly tampering with witnesses.

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